

GETTING STARTED:



This is where State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service's State & Private Forestry Offices come in.

As part of the Comprehensive Strategy for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks, State and Regional Foresters have dedicated grant funds to begin this effort.

Phase 1 of the program is in progress: our first pilot project in Darby, Montana. Their biomass system will be up and running for the 2003/04 school year.

Phase 2 is beginning this year: feasibility assessments of potential sites in Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Nevada and Utah. Based on the results of these assessments, we will fund and begin to implement projects in these five states.

Phase 3 will also begin this year. We will design a revolving loan fund to help us bring additional schools on line, while reducing federal and state investments in each project. By 2006, revolving loans will substantially lessen the need for federal dollars.



A State & Private Forestry Partnership



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Your State Forester

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FUELS

FOR

SCHOOLS

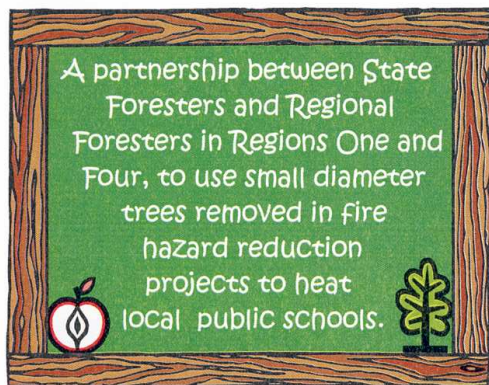


*Working together for healthy
forests and communities*



INTRODUCING... FUELS FOR SCHOOLS

1



State Foresters and Regional Foresters are excited to present the Fuels for Schools Program!

How it Works:

Step 1: Thin dense, unhealthy forests to reduce fire danger near communities in the wildland urban interface.

Step 2: Grind up small diameter wood and debris removed in Step 1.

Step 3: Haul chips to local schools.

Step 4: Use chips to fuel efficient, clean biomass heating systems!

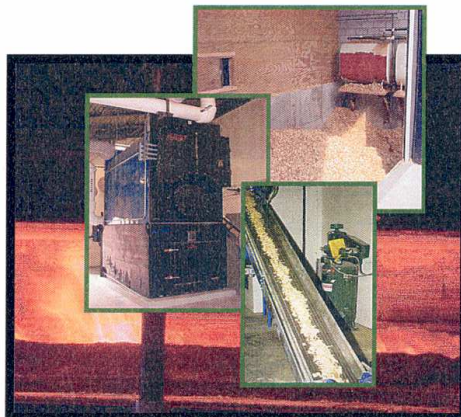
CLEAN TECHNOLOGY!

2

This is NOT your old wood stove!

Today's biomass heating systems feature:

- ◆ Combustion at temperatures above 1100 degrees Fahrenheit
- ◆ A controlled mixture of air and wood
- ◆ Water vapor as the only visible exhaust



In comparison to open burning, they produce:

- ◆ Less than 3% of the particulates
- ◆ Only 5% of the carbon monoxide
- ◆ About 3% of the methane
- ◆ Less than 40% of the nitrous oxides

WHY FUELS FOR SCHOOLS MAKES SENSE:

3

- ◆ Fire danger and damage are escalating.
- ◆ Fire suppression costs are astronomical and risks to firefighters are unacceptable.
- ◆ Reducing fuels is typically very costly.
- ◆ It also contributes to air quality and health problems via slash burning.
- ◆ Public education is important to our states, but funding is tight.
- ◆ Wood heat is less expensive than the alternatives available to many rural communities (propane or oil).
- ◆ Shifting schools to a local, non-fossil fuel source moves our country toward energy independence.



In short, the multiple benefits of Fuels For Schools include:

- ◆ Improved Forest Health
- ◆ Lower Fire Danger
- ◆ At lower cost to landowners
- ◆ With cleaner air
- ◆ And lower school heating costs!

Our first pilot project, Darby, Montana's schools, will start heating with biomass this fall! (2003)

Special thanks to our partner in this effort, Bitter Root RC&D!